

ABSTRACT

An automatic handling assembly that can load and unload photonic package components into a laser station. The laser station may include three lasers that weld the package components in a horizontal position. The package components may include a sleeve coupled to an optical fiber and a fiber package. The package may be mounted to a yoke that may "gimbal" about tooling plates. The yoke may include vacuum pulled friction bands that lock and unlock the position of the package. The package tooling may also have an actuator to apply a biasing force to the yoke to offset the affects of gravity. Additionally, the package tooling may have an actuator that can couple and de-couple electrical contacts to the yoke.